

REMARKS

Claims 9-16 are presently pending in the application. Claims 9, 15 and 16 are in independent form and are amended by way of this response. A one month extension of time is included with this response. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 9, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Yarwood* (US 6,161,016) in view of *Vialen* (US 2002/0018241). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

The cited art, alone and in combination, fails to teach or suggest the features of “transmitting a sequence in a message sent to the mobile stations...and providing that a connection only be established from a mobile station in the area to a destination called by the mobile station if the mobile station requesting the connection establishment communicates the sequence” as recited in claim 9, and similarly recited in claims 15 and 16.

The present claims are directed to addressing the issues of mobile radio networks in an area hit by a disaster, where the networks are frequently overloaded due to users of numerous mobile stations present in the area trying to make emergency calls. To alleviate such problems, the present claims recite a configuration where a certain sequence is transmitted to certain mobile stations in at least one cell in the area of the disaster, wherein the sequence allows a mobile station to request the establishment of a connection (e.g., a voice connection) to a specified destination address only when the sequence is properly communicated by the mobile station. In other words, the sequence acts like a password in that the transmitter (e.g., base station) only sends the “secret” sequence to certain mobile stations and then requires the same sequence back from any mobile station that wants to establish a connection.

The Office action relies on *Yarwood* to teach the claimed “transmitting a sequence.” Applicant respectfully disagrees. The “paging signals” taught by *Yarwood* are merely signals to alert mobile units that a broadcast message is being sent. For example, a plurality of different mobile units on various different channels may all receive the paging signal, and in response, all of the mobile units may move to a common channel in order to receive an emergency voice message being broadcast on that channel.

In addition, as stated in the Office action, *Yarwood* is silent on the feature of establishing a connection (e.g., a voice connection) to a specified destination address only when the sequence

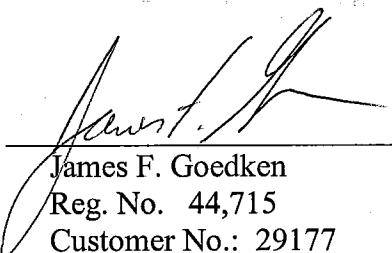
is properly communicated by the mobile station (OA pg. 3). *Vialen* also fails to teach or suggest this feature. In *Vialen*, the only time a paging request is denied is if there is "no capacity or capability to create a bearer." (¶42). There is absolutely no check in *Vialen* to see if the mobile station communicates a particular sequence it previously received, let alone the paging signal from *Yarwood*, which is a completely different type of message than the paging request of *Vialen*.

All other pending claims depend from 9, 15 or 16 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9-16 are both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned. If any additional fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket no. (119065-64) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

K&L GATES LLP

BY


James F. Goedken
Reg. No. 44,715
Customer No.: 29177
Phone: (312) 807-4250

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